

Introduced by Senator Knight

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February 27, 2013

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 16—Relative to aerospace.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 16, as introduced, Knight. California Aerospace Month.

This measure would recognize the contributions of the aerospace industry to the history, economy, security, and educational system of California, its communities, and its citizens by proclaiming the month of March 2013 as California Aerospace Month.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, The California aerospace industry is a powerful,
- 2 reliable source of employment, innovation, and export income,
- 3 directly employing more than 162,000 people in California and
- 4 supporting more than 640,000 jobs in related fields for a total
- 5 payroll estimated at \$15.3 billion annually and resulting in \$500
- 6 million in annual state income taxes; and
- 7 WHEREAS, The California aerospace industry leads the United
- 8 States in aerospace and defense services, including the design and
- 9 manufacture of aircraft, spacecraft, and commercial satellites, as
- 10 well as a myriad of systems and instruments for search, detection,
- 11 navigation, guidance, and radio and television broadcast and
- 12 wireless communication systems; and

1 WHEREAS, California is home to many superb sites of air and
2 space activity, including Vandenberg Air Force Base, two Federal
3 Aviation Administration-licensed launch sites, the Mojave Air and
4 Spaceport, more than 20 astronomical observatories, multiple
5 international airports, many important defense aerospace bases,
6 and hundreds of business and general aviation airfields; and

7 WHEREAS, California is also home to three National
8 Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) research and
9 engineering centers. These centers are recognized as the Ames
10 Research Center, the Dryden Flight Research Center, and the Jet
11 Propulsion Laboratory (JPL); and

12 WHEREAS, California has led the nation in aeronautical firsts
13 and California's aerospace industry produced many of the
14 significant and record-breaking aircraft that are now represented
15 in The Smithsonian Institution's National Air and Space Museum.
16 The Spirit of St. Louis, which in 1927 performed the first solo
17 nonstop transatlantic flight from New York to Paris, was designed
18 and built in California by Ryan Airlines and made Charles
19 Lindbergh an international hero. The Douglas DC-3, recognized
20 as the most successful airliner in history, dominating both
21 commercial and military air transportation from its introduction
22 in 1935 until after World War II, was designed and built in
23 California by the Douglas Aircraft Company. The Space Shuttle
24 was designed, built, assembled, and tested in California. California
25 is home to Edwards Air Force Base, the site of five test flights of
26 the Shuttle Enterprise, the landing site of 54 Space Shuttle
27 missions, and the site of the 199 X-15 missions; and

28 WHEREAS, Edwards Air Force Base, known for its notable
29 aeronautical achievements, was the location of many first flights
30 of American aircraft, shuttles, and jets flown from Rogers Dry
31 Lake in the Mojave Desert of Kern County. America's first jet,
32 XP-59A, was first flown in California. General Charles "Chuck"
33 Yeager made world history in California on October 14, 1947,
34 when he became the first man to fly Mach 1, faster than the speed
35 of sound, while piloting the Bell X-1 rocket plane. The rocket
36 powered X-15, flown by former State Senator William J. "Pete"
37 Knight, attained a speed of Mach 6.7 (4,520 miles per hour), a
38 speed that remains, to this day, the highest ever attained in an
39 airplane. The Rutan Model 76 Voyager, was the first aircraft to
40 fly around the world without stopping or refueling; and

1 WHEREAS, California has led the nation in firsts in human
2 space exploration, including the manufacture of the Apollo 11
3 command module that carried the first humans to the surface of
4 our moon; the manufacture and landing of the Space Shuttle
5 orbiters, the first reusable space vehicles, which include the
6 Endeavour, on display at the California Science Center; and the
7 manufacture and recovery of the SpaceX Dragon capsule and
8 Falcon launch vehicle, the first privately funded space exploration
9 system; and

10 WHEREAS, California has led the nation in firsts in robotic
11 space exploration, including the Explorer 1 Earth observation
12 satellite as America's first successful spacecraft, the Mariner 2 as
13 the first spacecraft to explore another planet, the Viking landers
14 as the first spacecrafts to perform experiments on another planet,
15 and the development of the Pioneer spacecraft as the first to exit
16 our solar system; and

17 WHEREAS, Californians, through NASA and JPL, build,
18 manage, and operate the majority of the spacecraft exploring our
19 solar system, including the most recent Mars Science Laboratory
20 "Curiosity," and those spacecraft exploring other solar systems,
21 like the Kepler exoplanet discovery mission, as well as the SOFIA,
22 the Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy that
23 administers the Airborne Astronomy Ambassadors program for
24 educators who have inspired the dreams of California youth; and

25 WHEREAS, California aerospace industries assemble the
26 legendary Boeing C-17 Globemaster III, build the impressive
27 Northrop Grumman Global Hawk Unmanned Aerial Systems,
28 engineer radical new aircraft at the famous Lockheed Martin
29 "Skunk Works" Advanced Development Programs facility, and
30 create systems that assist and protect members of the American
31 Armed Forces through military communications, situational
32 awareness, satellite-guided ordnance, and technologies yet to be
33 dreamed of; and

34 WHEREAS, California will continue to lead in aerospace
35 education, through its superb Science, Technology, Engineering
36 and Mathematics (STEM) education programs and at its
37 world-class research universities, and thus will continue to lead
38 the world with the innovation that enabled advanced meteorological
39 forecasting, the Global Positioning System, NextGen tools for air

1 traffic management, green aviation, sophisticated wind tunnels
2 and test facilities, and advanced supercomputing and robotics; and
3 WHEREAS, The American Institute of Aeronautics and
4 Astronautics (AIAA), in conjunction with NASA, is sponsoring a
5 month of events to highlight the contributions of the aerospace
6 community to California, including panel discussions, educational
7 displays, tours, and the “AIAA Policy Symposium: Civilian
8 Applications of Uninhabited Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) - A California
9 Perspective,” during March 2013; now, therefore, be it

10 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
11 *thereof concurring*, That the California Legislature recognizes the
12 contributions of the aerospace industry to the history, economy,
13 security, and educational system of California, its communities,
14 and its citizens by proclaiming the month of March 2013 as
15 California Aerospace Month; and be it further

16 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of State transmit copies of this
17 resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.